

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LISBON 01314 121543 Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

NIC-01 ACDA-19 IO-12 RSR-01 /135 W
----- 052418

R 121500 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7850

INFO AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1314

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER AND PRO- GOP PRESS WARN OF COMMUNIST
THREAT IN WAKE OF OPPOSITIONIST CONGRESS

REF: LISBON 1271

1. SUMMARY: AFTER WEEK IN WHICH ANTI- GOP ACTIVITY AT
" CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION" IN AVEIRO (SEE REFTEL)
DOMINATED NEWS, GOP SPOKESMEN HAVE STRUCK BACK. IN " CRY
OF ALARM" SPEECH APRIL 10, PRIME MINISTER CAETANO ARGUED
ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO " TRUE AND HEALTHY DEMOCRACY" OF PRESENT
REGIME IS REGIME OF " COMMUNIST OPPRESSION" LEADING TO
" CIVIL WAR, TERROR, MISERY AND FEAR." PRO- GOVERNMENT
PRESS HAS TAKEN SIMILAR LINE, BLASTING AVEIRO GROUP AND
STRESSING ROLE OF COMMUNISTS IN IT. THIS APPROACH LIKELY
INTENDED DIVERT ATTENTION FROM ISSUES RAISED AT AVEIRO AND
ASSURE RIGHT WING PM ALERT TO " COMMUNIST THREAT."
END SUMMARY

2. IN APRIL 10 SPEECH AT SEMINAR ON POLITICAL THEORY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LISBON 01314 121543 Z

ORGANIZED BY ANP, GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL MOVEMENT, PRIME MINISTER CAETANO RECITED BACKGROUND OF MARXIST IDEOLOGY AND POLITICAL THEORY AND STATED MARXISM SPREADING AND ITS TERMINOLOGY COMING INTO STYLE, EVEN AMONG NON- AND ANTI- MARXISTS. PM SAID " ANARCHIST ADVERSARIES" SEEK SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF INSTITUTIONS. AND AN END TO GOVERNMENT; ADOPTION OF THEIR IDEAS WOULD LEAD TO " WORLD OF BEASTS." COMMUNISTS, WHILE CONDEMNING ANARCHISTS, COOLY PLAN ANNIHILATION OF BOURGEOISIE AND INSTALLATION OF PROLETARIAN DICTATORSHIP, WHICH THEY CALL " PEOPLE ' S DEMOCRACY." THIS FORM OF GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES NEW RULING CLASS OF BUREAUCRATS WHO SUPPRESS INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND INDIVIDUALITY ITSELF.

3. PRIME MINISTER INVITED LIBERALS TO NOTE EXPLOITATION OF WORD " DEMOCRACY" BY THOSE PLANNING REVOLUTION, AND WARNED THAT DEMAND OF " NEO- DEMOCRATS" FOR LIBERTY IS DEVICE TO FACILITATE REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES.

4. CAETANO STATED HE WAS SOUNDING " CRY OF ALARM" RE POLITICAL OPTIONS OF PORTUGUESE PEOPLE, WHO MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN " A REGIME FO TRUE AND HEALTHY DEMOCRACY, LIKE OURS," WHICH SEEKS SOCIAL JUSTICE AND PROMOTES PROGRESS, AND REIGN OF " COMMUNIST OPPRESSION," WHICH HAS NOTHING IN COMMON WITH DEMOCRACY EXCEPT THE USURPED NAME AND WHICH WOULD " ENTHRONE HATRED, SOW SEEDS OF CIVIL WAR," AND RESULT IN " REIGN OF TERROR, MISERY AND FEAR."

5. P. . SAID HE COULD EXPLAIN " RAGE OF OUR ADVERSARIES" AGAINST REFORM AND REFORMERS ONLY BY ADVERSARIES' " EN- RAGED RECOGNITION THAT WE ARE ON RIGHT ROAD, " TO GIVE PORTUGAL MORE EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL BENEFITS, AND FUTURE PROSPECTS, " INSTEAD OF THE BOMBS THEY (ADVERSARIES) THROW AND THE HATRED THEY SPREAD."

6. ALTHOUGH P. M. DID NOT EXPLICITLY MENTION AVEIRO CONGRESS, PRESS COMMENTATORS MAKING SIMILAR PITCH DID SO. THUS DIARIO DE NOTICIAS EDITORIALIZED THAT, AS EXPECTED, CENTRIST DEMOCRATS IN AVEIRO YIELDED GROUND TO MARXISM, AND " FACTIONS OF FAR LEFT QUICKLY TOOK COMMAND." NOTICIAS COMPLAINED THAT " NOT ONE VOICE WAS HEARD TO CONDEMN TERRORISM" AT CONGRESS, AND ALLEGED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LISBON 01314 121543 Z

THAT RECENT BOMBINGS IN OPORTO (SEE LISBON 1260) WERE

INTENDED TO SUPPORT DEMANDS OF OPPOSITIONISTS IN AVEIRO.
ANI NEWS AGENCY HEAD DUTRA FARIA WROTE " REAL DEMOCRATS"
NOT PRESENT AT CONGRESS; COMMUNISTS, WHO CONSTITUTE " ONLY
FORCE WHICH REALLY COUNTS" IN OPPOSITION, DEMONSTRATED
THEIR AGGRESSIVENESS AND DISCIPLINE, EPOCA " UNMASKED"
CONGRESS AND FOUND " ASSEMBLY OF TREASON." A CAPITAL' S
DIRECTOR HOMEN DE MELLO WROTE OF " IRRESPONSIBLE, UNFEELING
DEMAGOGY" AT CONGRESS.

7. COMMENT: STRENGTH OF CAETANO' S ATTACK NOT WARRANTED
BY THE POLITICAL THREAT POSED BY THE " AVEIRO DEMOCRATS,"
ALTHOUGH SOME ARE EXPECTED TO RUN IN OCTOBER NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS. GOP CHARGES THAT COMMUNISTS
IN THE SADDLE IN AVEIRO (FOR WHICH THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL
EVIDENCE) HAVE SEVED TO SHIFT ATTENTION AWAY FROM
ISSUES RAISED AT CONGRESS, IN MANNER REMINISCENT OF
DE GAULLE' S ME- OR- CHAOS APPROACH. IN ADDITION,
CAETANO' S STRONG BLAST AIMED AT REASSURING RIGHT WING
THAT HE SEES AND UNDERSTANDS COMMUNIST THREAT.
POST

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LISBON01314
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730441/aaaaijz.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 LISBON 1271
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <29-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980105
Subject: PRIME MINISTER AND PRO- GOP PRESS WARN OF COMMUNIST THREAT IN WAKE OF OPPOSITIONIST CONGRESS
TAGS: PINT, PO
To: EUR
LOURENCO MARQUES
LUANDA
MADRID
OPORTO
PONTA DELGADA
SECSTATE WASHDC

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005